

REMARKS

Claims 1-55 are now in the application. Claim 10 has been amended to recite "obtained" in place of "obtainable" for purposes of clarification. Claim 16 has been amended by inserting -- further--between "which" and "comprises" for purposes of clarity. Also, this amendment is intended to correct a translation error in the English text. The term "further" is included in the specification of the PCT application. Please see the attached sheets.

Applicants hereby elect with traverse the invention identified by the Examiner as Group I, drawn to the vinyl polymer (I) and the curable composition containing the polymer (I).

Claims 1-15 read on the elected invention.

This election is made with traverse of the extent that the claims of Group II, i.e.-claims 16-18 should be examined with those of Group I. In particular, Group II, relates to a curable composition that contains the vinyl polymer (I), which is the same as Group I. Therefore, the invention of Groups I and II contains a single special technical feature. Therefore, it is requested that the invention of Groups I and II be examined in this application.

Claims 16-18 read on Group II.

Claims 19-88 read on non-elected inventions and may be cancelled by the Examiner upon the allowance of the claims directed to the elected invention.

Claims 1-4, 6, 10-22, 24, 28-40 and 44-46 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first and second paragraphs. Concerning this rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, first and second paragraphs, as appreciated by the Examiner, the present specification describes a method of claiming specific functional polymers using specific catalysts to polymerize the polymers and thereafter functionalizing the polymers (see page 2, lines 19-22 of the Office Action). Furthermore, the specification describes the vinyl polymer and the curable composition according to the present invention in detail (Specification; page 5, line 34- page 77, line 14). Thus, one of ordinary skill in the art would be able to practice the present invention after being made aware of the specification. Therefore, the claims of the present invention meet the requirement of 35 U.S.C. §112, first and second paragraphs.

Claims 10, 11, 16, 28, 33 and 44 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

The rejection of claim 10, and claims dependent thereon has been overcome by the

amendment to claim 10 to recite "obtained" in place of "obtainable".

Concerning claim 16, it directly depends upon claim 12 not on claim 10.

Since amended claim 16 includes the limitation of claim 12, it is clear that the curable composition of amended claim 16 comprises (1) the vinyl polymer of claim 1 having a silanol group at one or more termini thereof and (2) a polymer having a silicon atom-bound hydrolyzable group (s) and no silanol group. Therefore, amended claim 16 does not contradict claim 12, and claim 16 is clear.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue.

Applicants believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 22-0185, under Order No. 21581-00255-US from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

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Respectfully submitted,

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Version With Markings to Show Changes Made**In the Claims**

Please amend the claims as follows:

10. (Amended) The polymer according to claim 1,

which is [obtainable] obtained by carrying out the hydrosilylation reaction of a vinyl polymer having an alkenyl group at one or more one termini thereof with a silicon compound having both a silicon atom-bound hydrolyzable group and a hydrosilyl group

and then converting said hydrolyzable group to a silanol group by hydrolysis.

16. (Amended) The curable composition according to claim 12

which further comprises a polymer,

said polymer having a silicon atom-bound hydrolyzable group (s) and no silanol group.